



Montana Crop & Livestock Reporter

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture

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2011 Prospective Plantings

Montana spring wheat producers expect to seed 2.8 million acres in 2011, down 2 percent from last year. Producers expect to plant 510,000 acres of durum wheat this spring, down 6 percent from last year. Winter wheat seedings, at 2.3 million acres, are up 100,000 acres from the December estimate and 12 percent above last year. At the end of March 2011, winter wheat conditions were above a year ago with 0 percent very poor, 3 percent poor, 33 percent fair, 60 percent good, and 4 percent excellent, compared with 2 percent very poor, 7 percent poor, 53 percent fair, 34 percent good, and 4 percent excellent in 2010. Adding the winter wheat acres seeded last fall to the intended acreage for other spring and durum wheat, all wheat seeded for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 5.61 million acres, up 3 percent from 2010.

Montana barley producers intend to plant 770,000 acres, up 1 percent from the previous year. The intended seeded acreage for oats is expected to total 55,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from 2010 and, if realized, this would be the lowest planted acreage on record. Corn growers intend to plant 70,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from last year. Acres planted to sugar beets are expected to total 45,900 acres, up 3,300 acres from 2010. Hay producers intend to harvest 2.9 million acres, up 2 percent from last year.

The area planted to all dry beans in Montana is expected to total 27,000 acres, up from 18,800 acres last year. All garbanzo beans (chickpeas) area planted is expected to total 18,000 acres, up from 6,300 acres in 2010. Of that acreage, 11,000 acres will be planted to small garbanzo beans and 7,000 acres will be planted to large garbanzo beans. All dry

pea area planted is expected to total 215,000 acres, down from 220,000 acres in 2010. Austrian winter pea area planted is expected to total 12,000 acres, down 4,000 acres from last year. Lentil acres planted for 2011 is expected to total 320,000 acres, up from 260,000 acres in 2010. If realized, this would be the largest planted acreage on record.

Montana canola producers intend to plant 25,000 acres in 2011, up from 17,500 acres in 2010. Flaxseed producers intend to plant 22,000 acres in 2011, up 7,000 acres from last year.

In the United States, all wheat planted area is estimated at 58.0 million acres, up 8 percent from last year. The 2011 winter wheat planted area, at 41.2 million acres, is 10 percent above last year and up 1 percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.4 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.2 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.7 million are White Winter. Area planted to other spring wheat for 2011 is estimated at 14.4 million acres, up 5 percent from 2010. Of this total, about 13.6 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat. Durum planted area for 2011 is estimated at 2.37 million acres, down 8 percent from 2010.

U.S. barley producers intend to seed 2.95 million acres for the 2011 crop year, up 3 percent from the 2.87 million acres seeded in 2010. If realized, this will be the second lowest seeded acreage on record.

Area seeded in the U.S. to oats for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 2.84 million acres, down 10 percent from the 3.14 million acres planted last year. If realized, this will be the lowest United States total on record.

U.S. corn growers intend to plant 92.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2011, up 5 percent from last year and 7 percent higher than in 2009. If realized, this will be the second highest planted acreage in the United States since 1944,

behind only the 93.5 million acres planted in 2007.

Sugar beets area planted in the U.S. for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 1.19 million acres, up 1 percent from the 1.17 million acres planted in 2010. Planting intentions increased in half of the estimating States.

U.S. producers expect to harvest 59.0 million acres of all hay in 2011, down 1 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be the fourth lowest harvested acreage on record. Harvested area is expected to decrease from last year throughout most of the western two-thirds of the Nation, primarily due to lower livestock inventories, an increase in acreage being planted to other crops with higher prices, and drought conditions in the Southern Great Plains.

Dry bean growers in the U.S. intend to plant 1.30 million acres in 2011, down 32 percent from last year. The decrease in planted acres can be mainly attributed to increased acreage intentions for competing crops, including corn and wheat. Expected area planted for all chickpeas is 138,900 acres, down 5 percent from last year. Small chickpea area, at 35,900 acres, is 43 percent higher than 2010. Large chickpea acreage is expected to be 15 percent less than last year. Small chickpeas are defined as peas that will pass through a 20/64 inch round hole screen.

U.S. dry edible pea growers intend to plant 586,000 acres, down 22 percent from 2010. If realized, this season will be the third consecutive year of declining United States planted acreage. Austrian winter pea area planted for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 20,000 acres, down 36 percent from a year ago.

U.S. lentils area planted for the 2011 crop year is expected to total 710,000 acres, up 8 percent from 2010. If realized, this will be a record high since estimates began in 1986. (continued on next page)

2011 Prospective Plantings (continued from page one)

Canola producers in the U.S. intend to plant a record high 1.61 million acres in 2011, up 11 percent from 2010. Compared with last year, planted area is

expected to increase in four of the six major canola-producing States, with acreage in Oklahoma expected to increase 67 percent from the previous year's area.

U.S. flaxseed producers intend to plant 420,000 acres of flaxseed in 2011, down 1,000 acres from last year. Planted area is expected to increase or remain unchanged from last year in all estimating States except North Dakota.

Planted Acreage, 2009-2010 and Intended 2011, Montana and United States

	Montana				United States			
	2009	2010	2011	2011/2010	2009	2010	2011	2011/2010
	Thousand Acres			Percent	Thousand Acres			Percent
All Wheat	5,520.0	5,440.0	5,610.0	103	59,168.0	53,603.0	58,021.0	108
Winter Wheat	2,550.0	2,050.0	2,300.0	112	43,346.0	37,335.0	41,229.0	110
Durum Wheat	570.0	540.0	510.0	94	2,554.0	2,570.0	2,365.0	92
Other Spring Wheat	2,400.0	2,850.0	2,800.0	98	13,268.0	13,698.0	14,427.0	105
Barley	870.0	760.0	770.0	101	3,567.0	2,872.0	2,952.0	103
Oats	70.0	65.0	55.0	85	3,404.0	3,138.0	2,839.0	90
Corn	72.0	80.0	70.0	88	86,382.0	88,192.0	92,178.0	105
Sugar Beets	38.4	42.6	45.9	108	1,185.8	1,171.4	1,187.1	101
All Hay Harvested	2,500.0	2,850.0	2,900.0	102	59,775.0	59,862.0	58,973.0	99
All Dry Beans	11.9	18.8	27.0	144	1,540.0	1,911.4	1,303.5	68
Garbanzo Beans, sm	1.9	--	11.0	--	16.1	25.1	35.9	143
Garbanzo Beans, lg	0.4	--	7.0	--	80.0	120.9	103.0	85
All Dry Peas	240.0	220.0	215.0	98	863.3	756.0	586.0	78
Austrian Winter Peas	10.0	16.0	12.0	75	20.5	31.2	20.0	64
Lentils	122.0	260.0	320.0	123	415.0	658.0	710.0	108
Canola	6.5	17.5	25.0	143	827.0	1,448.8	1,611.8	111
Flaxseed	11.0	15.0	22.0	147	317.0	421.0	420.0	100
-- Not published.								

March 1, 2011 Grain Stocks

All wheat stocks in Montana on March 1, 2011 were 106.3 million bushels, up 15 percent from March 1, 2010. All wheat stocks stored on farms amounted to 81.0 million bushels, up 19 percent from a year ago. All wheat stored off farms amounted to 25.3 million bushels, up 3 percent from a year ago. All wheat disappearance for the December 2010-February 2011 quarter was up 15 percent from the same quarter last year to 64.9 million bushels, compared with 56.3 million bushels a year ago. All durum wheat stocks in Montana were up slightly from a year ago to 10.7 million bushels. There were 9.0 million bushels of durum wheat stored on the farm and 1.7 million bushels stored off-farm.

Montana barley stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 were 29.8 million bushels, up 7 percent from a year ago. Barley stored on farms was 17.0 million bushels, up 21 percent from last year. Off-farm barley storage was down 8 percent from a year ago to 12.8 million bushels. All barley disappearance during the December 2010-February 2011 quarter was up 28 percent from the same

quarter a year ago to 11.5 million bushels, compared with 9.0 million bushels a year ago.

All oat stocks in Montana were estimated at 1,266,000 bushels, up 34 percent from last year. On-farm oat stocks were 1,200,000 bushels, up 33 percent from a year ago. Oats stored off-farm were up 40 percent from last year to 66,000 bushels.

All wheat stored in the United States on March 1, 2011 totaled 1.42 billion bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 288 million bushels, down 17 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 1.14 billion bushels, are up 13 percent from a year ago. The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance is 508 million bushels, up 20 percent from the same period a year earlier.

U.S. durum wheat stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 56.5 million bushels, up 2 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 35.7 million bushels, are up 4 percent from March 1, 2010. Off-farm stocks totaled 20.8 million bushels, down 2 percent from a year ago.

The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance of 11.8 million bushels is down 42 percent from the same period a year earlier.

All barley stocks in the United States on March 1, 2011 totaled 138 million bushels, down 12 percent from March 1, 2010. On-farm stocks are estimated at 57.7 million bushels, 14 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 80.3 million bushels, are 11 percent below March 2010. The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance totaled 42.4 million bushels, 14 percent below the same period a year earlier.

Oats stored in the United States on March 1, 2011 totaled 86.3 million bushels, 12 percent below the stocks on March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks on hand, 27.0 million bushels are stored on farms, down 13 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 59.4 million bushels, down 11 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during December 2010 - February 2011 totaled 14.7 million bushels, up 16 percent from the same period a year ago. (continued on next page)

March 1, 2011 Grain Stocks (continued from page two)

U.S. corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 6.52 billion bushels, down 15 percent from March 1,

2010. Of the total stocks, 3.38 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 26 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.14 billion bushels, are down slightly from a year ago. The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated

disappearance is 3.53 billion bushels, compared with 3.21 billion bushels during the same period last year.

March 1, 2011 Grain Stocks

Grain and Position	MONTANA				UNITED STATES		
	Mar 1, 2010	Dec 1, 2010	Mar 1, 2011	'11/'10	Mar 1, 2010	Dec 1, 2010	Mar 1, 2011
	Thousand Bushels			Percent	Thousand Bushels		
ALL WHEAT							
On Farms	68,000	142,000	81,000	119	348,250	550,000	288,010
Off Farms 1/	24,433	29,172	25,270	103	1,008,107	1,382,946	1,136,548
TOTAL	92,433	171,172	106,270	115	1,356,357	1,932,945	1,424,558
DURUM WHEAT							
On Farms	9,000	12,000	9,000	100	34,300	46,600	35,700
Off Farms 1/	1,654	1,965	1,693	102	21,216	21,742	20,795
TOTAL	10,654	13,965	10,693	100	55,516	68,342	56,495
BARLEY							
On Farms	14,000	28,000	17,000	121	67,370	91,660	57,700
Off Farms 1/	13,895	13,261	12,768	92	89,985	88,720	80,272
TOTAL	27,895	41,261	29,768	107	157,355	180,380	137,972
OATS							
On Farms	900	1,300	1,200	133	30,900	34,100	26,950
Off Farms 1/	47	92	66	140	67,091	66,911	59,395
TOTAL	947	1,392	1,266	134	97,991	101,011	86,345
CORN							
On Farms	--	--	--	--	4,548,000	6,302,000	3,384,000
Off Farms 1/	--	--	--	--	3,145,787	3,754,769	3,138,804
TOTAL	--	--	--	--	7,693,787	10,056,769	6,522,804

1/ Terminals, mills, interior elevators. -- Not published in order to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

February Agricultural Prices Received

February 2011 full month crop prices were overall higher when compared with January 2011. Montana's winter wheat price was \$5.98 per bushel, down \$0.05 from the previous month, spring wheat prices increased \$0.28 to \$7.13 per bushel, and durum wheat was up \$0.45 to \$7.00 per bushel. Feed barley prices increased \$0.10 from January to \$3.77 per bushel, and malt barley prices increased \$0.10 to \$4.03 per bushel. Oats were \$3.13 per bushel, up \$0.51 per bushel from January.

The mid-March price for alfalfa hay rose \$2.00 to \$80.00 per ton, but all other hay was unchanged at \$74.00

per ton. Mid-March grain prices were higher than February with winter wheat at \$6.86 per bushel, spring wheat was \$9.24 per bushel, durum wheat was \$7.16 per bushel, malt barley was \$5.17 per bushel, and feed barley was \$4.19 per bushel.

The all milk price was \$17.70 per cwt in February 2011, compared with \$16.70 per cwt in January and \$19.90 per cwt for March.

Nationally, prices for February and changes from January were as follows: winter wheat was \$7.03 per bushel, up \$0.66, spring wheat was \$7.70 per bushel, up \$0.57, durum wheat was \$8.43 per bushel, up \$1.36, the all barley price was \$3.97 per bushel, up \$0.12, oats were \$3.27 per bushel, up

\$0.16, steers and heifers were \$111.00 per cwt, up \$1.00, cows were \$72.50 per cwt, up \$7.50, calves were \$139.00 per cwt, up \$3.00, sheep were \$76.00 per cwt, down \$5.90, lambs were \$155.00 per cwt, up \$6.00, and all milk was \$19.10, up \$2.40 per cwt.

The U.S. mid-March winter wheat price was \$6.82 per bushel, spring wheat was \$8.61 per bushel, durum wheat was \$8.58 per bushel, malt barley was \$4.64 per bushel, and feed barley was \$4.31 per bushel. Alfalfa hay was \$136.00 per ton and other hay was \$97.30 per ton. Steer and heifer prices were \$116.00 per cwt, cows were \$73.40 per cwt, calves were \$148.00 per cwt, and all milk was \$20.40 per cwt. (continued on back page)

February Agricultural Prices Received (continued from page three)

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 174 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased 4 points (2.4 percent) from February. The Crop

Index is up 1 point (0.5 percent) and the Livestock Index increased 7 points (4.9 percent). Producers received higher prices for cattle, broilers, milk, and lettuce and lower prices for corn, soybeans, eggs, and cotton. In addition to prices, the overall index is also affected by the seasonal change based

on a 3-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of strawberries, soybeans, tomatoes, and milk offset decreased marketings of cattle, corn, cotton, and wheat.

Montana Average Farm Prices Received

Commodity	UNIT	Monthly Average				Change from Previous		Mid-Month Avg	
		Montana			U.S.	Month	Year	Montana	U.S.
		Feb 2010	Jan 2011	Feb 2011	Feb 2011	Jan 2011	Feb 2010	15-Mar-11	15-Mar-11
		Dollars							
Winter Wheat	Bu	4.67	6.03	5.98	7.03	-0.05	+1.31	6.86	6.82
Durum Wheat	Bu	5.28	6.55	7.00	8.43	+0.45	+1.72	7.16	8.58
Spring Wheat	Bu	5.81	6.85	7.13	7.70	+0.28	+1.32	9.24	8.61
All Wheat	Bu	5.18	6.44	6.52	7.43	+0.08	+1.34	7.92	7.63
All Barley	Bu	4.75	3.90	3.99	3.97	+0.09	-0.76	5.00	4.58
Feed Barley	Bu	2.60	3.67	3.77	3.55	+0.10	+1.17	4.19	4.31
Malt Barley	Bu	4.88	3.93	4.03	4.10	+0.10	-0.85	5.17	4.64
Oats	Bu	2.54	2.62	3.13	3.27	+0.51	+0.59	na	3.12
Alfalfa Hay	Ton	84.00	77.00	78.00	127.00	+1.00	-6.00	80.00	136.00
All Other Hay	Ton	90.00	77.00	74.00	93.90	-3.00	-16.00	74.00	97.30
All Hay Baled	Ton	85.00	77.00	77.00	116.00	0.0	-8.00	79.00	124.00
All Milk	Cwt	18.10	16.70	17.70	19.10	+1.00	-0.40	19.90	20.40
1/ Composite of steers, heifers, and cows. na-not available.									

COMING IN THE NEXT REPORTER

April 1 Potato Stocks
Red Meat Production

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